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CANADA DAY

Some events and attractions moved indoors, but it takes more than rain to spoil this party.....Pages 5-7

SPORTS

Lakeland Layouts win gold as Elk Point Minor Ball hosts U19 'C' Girls Softball Provincials...Page 3

Elk Point

Review





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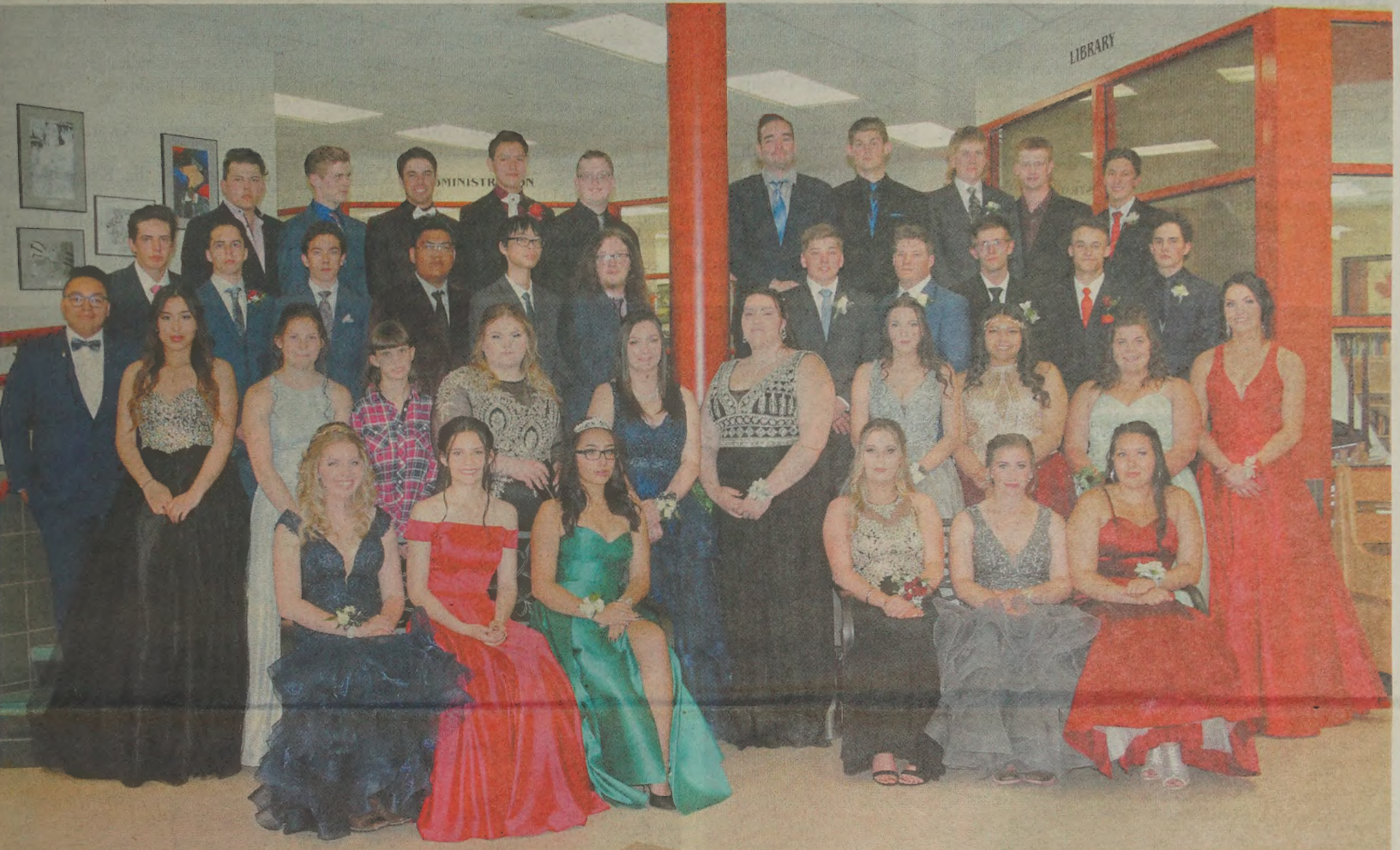
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F. G. MILLER HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2019 – in alphabetical order, are: Nicholas Anderson, Abby Baker, MJ Bretzer, Nicole Bristow, Bradley Canning, Allison Cayanan, Zane Cribbins, Aiden Dion, Chase Dorey, Macey Drobot, Kaiden Evans-Anderson, Zea Germain, Michael Habiak, Tyler Jamieson, Garret Kinaschuk, Brooke Krider, Madison Krider, Angus McFarlane, Colby McQuinn, Hunter Nelson, Catherine Nofall, Corbin Ockerman, Fawn Ockerman, Dustyn Pankiw, Tessa Pindroch, Connor Popiel, Gabrielle Potts-Abraham, Kayley Quinney-Cardinal, Keanna Radcliffe, Andrew Richer, Tammy Roberts, Sydney Rose, Tyler Roth, Kassandra Smith, Graham Stuparyk, Sam Urquhart, Carson Vogel, Kingslohn Zhang.

Vicki Brooker photo

F. G. Miller celebrates the Class of 2019

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

F. G. Miller High School's Class of 2019 was welcomed to their graduation ceremonies on Friday, June 28 by a near-capacity crowd of families and friends as they were introduced by master of ceremonies Darcy Younghans and took their places for the traditional 'Kodak moment' before Jorja Theriault and grad MJ Bretzer led the singing of O Canada.

Nicole Bristow opened the program with the message to the parents, offering appreciation "For not letting us be couch potatoes... for teaching us honesty, integrity and love. You have helped to shape us into the people we have become, you are the reason we are standing up here today."

In her reply on behalf of the parents, Julie Roth recalled, "Tyler learning to walk... you fell on your bum and sometimes cried, but every time you fell, you got up with determination." As young adults, she advised the grads to "Get up and take that next step. Don't be afraid to fail and don't expect perfection. Smile, and strive to be a person we can be proud of."

Abby Baker delivered the message to the teachers "who have promoted us to a new life. You are wonderful people who taught us to chase our dreams. You spent time preparing course content and tests, but what you taught us went far beyond the printed books, you laid the foundation of knowledge. The existence of an educational institution without people like you would be just a hollow building. You made us capable to be here today, citizens with true character, and you helped

us know what path to choose. We're going to miss our teachers and our friends."

Industrial Arts teacher Dave Shankowski said that when he graduated years ago, he was "on the grad committee, and felt that The Animals' song, 'We Gotta Get Outta This Place' would be a good theme, but it wasn't accepted. We had to go with 'The Thinker, thinking at a higher level. Your future starts here and ends with you. You have come from a premiere educational system, blowing things up in chemistry, having heated discussions in social studies, teachers staying to help you and hounding you to read more. If you earned a provincial title in volleyball, you know how to be a team, it's a Cadillac program for a small community." He urged them to be critical thinkers, to seek the truth and make informed decisions.

(Continued on Page 2)

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Class of 2019

(Continued from Front Page)

"If we lose the ability to speak freely, we lose the ability to be critical thinkers."

Shankowski was "supposed to retire this year, but couldn't be replaced. The students don't want me to retire, so I think I'm coming back because of my relationship with this school. I have some of my best memories here; we're a family."

F. G. Miller athletic director Jonathan Randall had high praise for the Class of 2019, and their "big commitment to athletics."

Randall praised the senior curling teams, which included Madison and Brooke Krider, Carson Vogel, Zane Cribbins, Kaiden Evans-Anderson, Keanna Radcliffe and Tessa Pindroch for their efforts in keeping that sport in the forefront, Nick Anderson for his outstanding performances in golf, cross country, volleyball and badminton, Corbin Ockerman for his performance in the 2A Volleyball Provincials and his scholarship to Thompson University, and Kaiden Evans-Anderson for his opportunity to play post-secondary baseball in Lethbridge.

Eleven students "have made significant contributions. These 11 students played five or more sports during high school and have become role models to our younger Crusaders. They are: Nick Anderson, Abby Baker, Sam Urquhart, Nicole Bristow, Zane Cribbins, Chase Dorey, MJ Bretzer, Kaiden Evans-Anderson,

Garrett Kinaschuk, Corbin Ockerman and Tyler Roth." Each of the 11 would receive a F. G. Miller Athletics lawn chair in recognition of their efforts.

Two of those honored for their sporting ability also had the honor to participate in the annual tradition of passing the Crusader sword, with Nick Anderson and Abby Baker passing on the sword to Dustin Pinder and Rhianna Bjorkman of the Class of 2020.

Valedictorian Kingslon Zhang admitted he is "different from the rest. I actually like school, I've never used social media ...and I put the milk in the bowl before the cereal." As he and his classmates become adults, he urged them to consider 'how advanced our society has become. We must learn, adapt and change. We have the power to change the future, both ours and others. We must step out of our comfort zone, and learn and grow as a person. I am a human, I can handle anything, and no matter the outcome, I've learned something. You can always learn, grow and change."

Youngmans delivered best wishes from St. Paul Education Division #1, Mayor and school trustee Lorne Young, County of St. Paul Reeve Steve Upham and Coun. Kevin Wirsta, before giving a short history of each grad as FGM principal Colin Bjorkman their diploma, along with sashes for Métis students and eagle feathers for the First Nations students.

"I'm super proud of you," Bjorkman told the grads. "This is what a 100 per cent grad rate looks like." He urged them to "pursue your passion; you can't all be high school English teachers, get a job, get a career. Artists, don't stop making art. MJ, don't stop making

music..." He had similar advice for those who love computers, sports and animals. "If you're not sure, try things, pursue it to the end, you won't regret doing something you love. And Kingslon, I'm going to try putting the milk in first."

Mortarboards sailed into the air before each grad in turn joined their escort for the recessional that wound up the afternoon ceremonies, which following a short break, were followed by a banquet and dance at the Elk Point Arts and Leisure Centre.

Scholarships and awards

F. G. Miller's Class of 2019 has qualified for a number of scholarships and awards this year, and has been nominated for others. They include:

Kingslon Zhang - E. H. Bjornstad Scholarship from Elk Point Elks #460, nominated for Barrie Wayne McFadyen Memorial Scholarship from the McFadyen family and the Schulich Leader Nominee from the Schulich Foundation.

Carson Vogel - Inter Pipeline Discovery Award from Inter Pipeline, nominated for the Challenger Technical Services Scholarship from Challenger Technical Services Ltd.

MJ Bretzer - Premier Citizenship Award from the Government of Alberta.

Zane Cribbins - nominated for the Barrie Wayne McFadyen Trade Scholarship.

Aidan Dion - nominated for the Malcolm Robert McFadyen Memorial Scholarship.

Kassandra Smith - nominated for the Violet E. McFadyen Memorial Scholarship.



THE CRUSADER SWORD was presented to Class of 2020 representatives Rhianna Bjorkman and Dustin Pinder by 2019 graduates Nick Anderson and Abby Baker.



VALEDICTORIAN Kingslon Zhang accepted his diploma from FGM principal Colin Bjorkman as the graduation ceremonies came to a close.

Vicki Brooker photos



MORTARBOARDS WENT FLYING - as the F. G. Miller Class of 2019 celebrated the end of their high school years.

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Pancake Breakfast 8:00 - 10:00 AM - \$5.00
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Celebrating 24 years of "Jamn Good Music"



PROVINCIAL GOLD MEDALISTS - the Lakeland Layouts, whose team includes five local players, back catcher Mackenzie Evans, pitcher Keanna Radcliffe, Nicole Bristow, Tammy Roberts and Katelyn Boratyne, defeated Lac La Biche Dodgers by a single run in Sunday's very exciting final.

Lakeland Layouts win Softball Provincials gold

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Elk Point Minor Ball and the Lakeland Layouts hosted the Softball Alberta U19 C Girls Provincials this weekend, with Doug Bassett welcoming the seven visiting teams at the opening ceremonies held early Friday afternoon.

Valleyview's Brad Saville Roughnocks, Calgary's South Bow River Reds, Edmonton's Wellington Royals, Fort Saskatchewan Sliders, Lacombe Matrix, Lac La Biche Dodgers and Sherwood Park Storm took their places on the edge of the diamond, followed by the host team, which includes Elk Point players Mackenzie Evans, Nicole Bristow, Keanna Radcliffe, Tammy Roberts and Katelyn Boratyne, before Elk Point Deputy Mayor Debra McQuinn led the singing of O Canada.

Elk Point Minor Ball treasurer Margaret Bayduza read a welcome message from president Dennell Anderson, who was traveling to Estevan, SK with her son's U18 AAA baseball team. "I hope you all enjoy a great weekend full of ball and memories. I would like to send special thanks to D'Arcy Evans and Sharon Earl for bringing this great event to Elk Point. An event like this takes many hours of preparation and organization and D'Arcy has done a great job getting everyone on board and with everything that needs to be done." She thanked the weekend's many volunteers, noting, "Our organization wouldn't be able to host this event without all your help."

"Ball has always held a special place in my heart and I am a true believer that everyone should have a chance to play; that being said, we run with a huge volunteer system so that we can keep registration costs low and provide great fields for the kids to play on," Anderson's message read. Bayduza reluctantly read the final paragraph, which praised herself.

"Last but not least, I want to send a huge thanks to the lady that is reading this, she is our treasurer but does more than that, she is only a phone call away and will be there in a heartbeat if needed, she picks up booth shifts no one wants, score keeps, all in all, she is always there and always willing to do anything. Thank you, Margaret."

Softball Alberta Zone 7 district organizer Sharon Earl added her welcome to the teams, noting that for players going on to post-secondary education, "Softball Alberta has scholarships available," with mentorship of younger players and parent involvement playing a role in qualifying for the scholarships. For the weekend, she advised, "Parents, cheer loud, girls, play your best game."

Deputy Mayor McQuinn welcomed everyone, on behalf of the Town of Elk Point, Mayor Lorne Young and council. "We thank you for coming and hope you all enjoy your time here. We would like to con-

gratulate everyone for making it to the Provincial Championships, it is your hard work that has brought you to this event, and we want to wish you much luck and success in your challenging games ahead. It is with much pride that we are able to support, sponsor, and host provincial ball teams on our home fields. Thank you to all the volunteers and parents who work tirelessly to put this event together and get everyone here and home safely."

Bassett introduced Taylor Cochrane, who would throw the ceremonial first pitch to Lakeland Layouts Mackenzie Evans.

"As a home town girl, Taylor stated her softball career right here in Elk Point at the age of four. Eventually, due to very small numbers for her age group, she went on to play with the Lloydminster Rebels and then the Edmonton Warriors. She was fortunate to play in two Western Canadian championships and two national championships, and travels through Canada and the US for tournaments. She was also selected to play on Team Alberta for the Western Canadian Summer Games."

Her softball career has now evolved into a coaching/instructor role; she is a CANPitch instructor, helping many of our aspiring pitchers here in town and in the Lakeland area. She also coached the Zone 8 Alberta Summer Games softball team in 2018.

Cochrane wished good luck to all the teams, and for the Lakeland Layouts, that good luck saw them win over the teams from Edmonton, Calgary and Lacombe in the round robin, with their only loss to the Lac La Biche Dodgers, to place second overall behind the Brad Saville Roughnocks. The Roughnocks, however, lost 9 to 2 to fourth place Lac La Biche in Sunday morning's semifinals, while the Layouts defeated the third place Calgary team 11 to 4.

For most of the championship final game, the Layouts and Dodgers seemed very evenly matched, the host team maintaining a narrow 4-3 lead for three innings. In the top of the seventh, the Dodgers found new momentum after a well-placed hit brought in two runs, and kept up the pace, bringing two more home to make the score 7-4 in their favour before they took over the field for the bottom of the inning.

A walk to first, a double hit and a missed catch on a high flying ball brought the first Layout batter over home plate, while the next slid home on a miss by the LLB catcher. With another two runners on base, a long hit brought them both home to seal the win at 8-7 as the hometown crowd cheered long and loud, many fans heading out onto the diamond to photograph the presentation of medals and the provincials banner by Softball Alberta's Sharon Earl.

In the bronze medal game, the South Bow River Reds also defeated the Roughnocks by a single point, both of the finals among the closest games of the tournament.



TAYLOR COCHRANE, whose softball career has taken her to western and national championships, threw the ceremonial first pitch.



SILVER MEDALISTS - The Lac La Biche Dodgers had a seventh inning rally that redoubled the Layouts efforts for the win.

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OPENING CEREMONIES LINEUP of the top U19 Softball teams in the province



EDITORIAL

Setting 'Plan B' now routine

It rained on our parade in 2004, it sent stage show watchers under a massive tent during the 20-minute downpour in 2014, had the library's pancake breakfast cooking under a tent and hauling in chairs and tables for the hungry crowd in 2016 and this year, had volunteers scurrying to move all possible outdoor activities indoors for the afternoon.

It's getting to be a habit to celebrate at least part of Canada Day dealing with the rain.

It never hurts to have a 'Plan B' for any occasion dealing with outdoor celebrations, from a family picnic to the Calgary Stampede, and now it's just become part of Elk Point's Canada Day planning process.

The library was lucky this year, although they had space cleared and the arena, for chair borrowing, on speed dial, but the early afternoon saw some fast action on the part of the volunteers, as they coped with abrupt changes in plans due to the weather.

It was "Stay Calm and Carry On" in action - and a good job was done by all to keep the fun going!

SUMMER SAFETY

RCMP reminds citizens to follow the 9 p.m. Routine

Alberta RCMP has been sending nightly notifications on their social media accounts to remind citizens to follow the #9PMRoutine. The #9PMRoutine is a movement that is supported by police forces across the world. People are encouraged to follow a routine checklist every night to double check their property is locked up and safe.

A common question from the public is, "Why should I do this?" Property crimes are often crimes of opportunity and small things like locking doors and turning on lights can deter criminals.

Last summer (June to August 2018) there were close to 36,000 property-related incidents in RCMP jurisdiction and almost 50 per cent of all reported bicycle thefts occurred in the summer months.

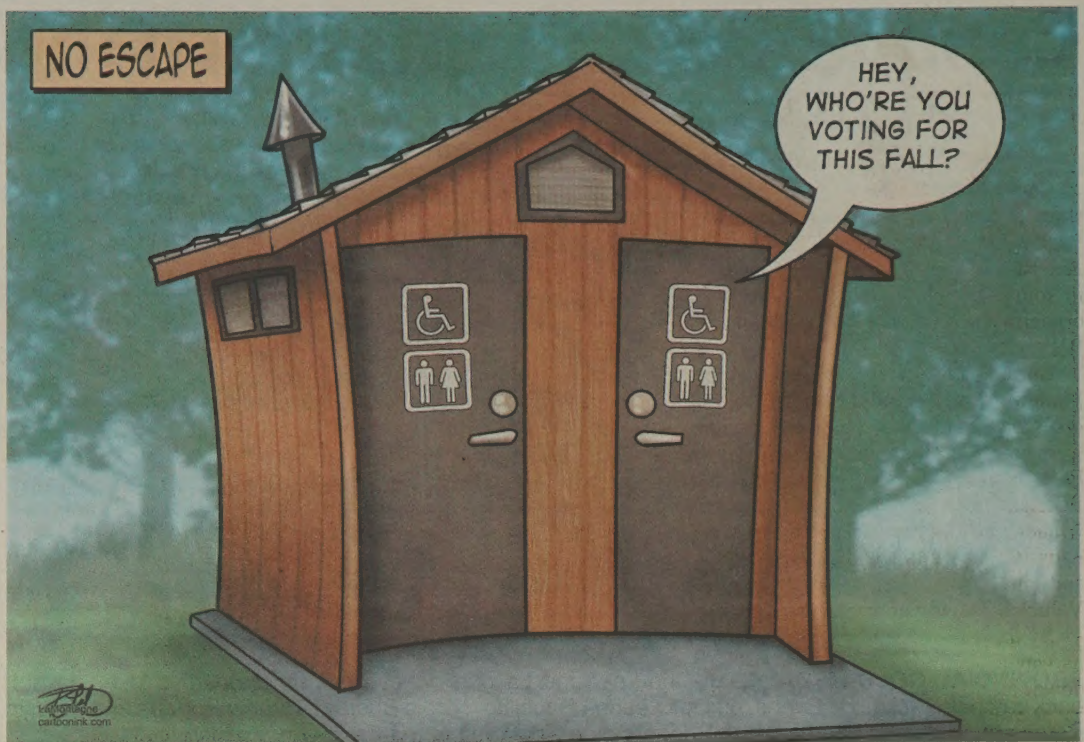
Here are some ideas to include in your 9 p.m. routine:

- Turn on outside lights at night
- Lock your doors
- Put away toys and bikes in a locked, safe location
- Put away tools when you're finished with them
- Put away outdoor equipment such as lawn mowers and weed trimmers
- Lock up off-highway vehicles (ATVs, dirt bikes, etc.)
- Double check vehicles are locked and keys are removed

Depending who you talk to, forming a habit can take anywhere from 21 to 66 days. This is why Alberta RCMP will be posting every night for two full months. By remembering to lock up and secure your property, you're helping to create a safer Alberta.

Join the movement by using #9PMRoutine and following our social media accounts on Twitter (@RCMPAlberta) and Facebook (@RCMPinAlberta).

If you see something suspicious, report it to your local police service. If you see a crime in progress, call 911. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.P3Tips.com or by using the "P3 Tips" app available through the Apple App or Google Play Store.



WAY BACK WHEN...

Mulroney in boots, cleanup costs and Canada Day rain

HERE'S THE NEWS THAT MADE THE HEADLINES IN THE LAKELAND REVIEW AND ELK POINT REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 15 IN....

1984

Progressive Conservative leader Brian Mulroney got down to the grassroots in Vermilion when he met with 2,000 supporters, immediately pulling on a pair of cowboy boots he was presented with and standing tall on his new western foundation as he called out, "Bring on those Grits!" 1989

The archaeological team probing deep into the fur traders who inhabited the North West Company's Fort George were coming up with a wide variety of items, including everything from the side plate of a firearm to a huge, rust-caked key, which would help to tell the fascinating story of life at the fort two centuries earlier.

1994

Three oil companies operating in the area - Amoco Canada, Norcen Energy Resources and Pan Canadian Petroleum - would share the costs of the cleanup of the sewage lagoon with the Town of Elk Point, after the April 27 discovery of a diesel-like substance emanating from an undetermined source in the lagoon, which led to a very prompt cleanup costing in the range of \$10,000.

1999

Interest groups from Elk Point, St. Paul and other areas agreed to pursue the development of the Trans Canada Trail from the Saskatchewan border to the western border of the County of St. Paul, narrowing the gap between Edmonton and the border that existed in the Trail's map at that time,

2004

It rained on our parade, but started after the last Canada Day breakfast pancake had been devoured,

with later showers holding off throughout the afternoon, as a good crowd enjoyed the Second Annual Slow Tractor Race and the stage show, the day winding up with a gospel concert.

2009

Canada Day was a big hit from beginning to its end, 15 hours later, with a Canadian Forces jet zooming over the parade crowd, MLA Ray Danyluk presenting the final payment of \$386,510 to the Allied Arts Society during the afternoon stage show and St. Paul vocalist Kyle Babyn named Elk Point's second Canada Day Idol.

2014

The first six hours of Elk Point's Canada Day celebrations went off without a hitch last Tuesday, but a 20-minute downpour sent virtually everyone scurrying for shelter under tents, into the arena, in nearby vehicles or crowding under umbrellas. As soon as the final drops subsided, however, the fun resumed and hot sun dried out the impromptu wet-tee-shirt event as the show got back underway, continuing right through the fireworks finale with no further weather delays.



A POWWOW-STYLE GRAND ENTRY by Frog Lake First Nations dancers and drum group started off Elk Point's Canada Day stage show with their colorful pageantry.

Elk Point Review

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Canada Day adapts to changeable weather

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Canada Day 2019 may have started off with sunny skies for the long lineup of breakfasters waiting for fresh-off-the-griddle pancakes, but the last sausage had barely been consumed when strong winds blew in some ominous looking cloud cover and the day's organizers reluctantly started their transition to 'Plan B'.

Chilly winds were sending waves of dust down Main Street as a smaller than usual group of decorated bikes headed up the route, and parade prize ribbons were handed out to Industrial winners CNRL and Selte Fuel, Small Business winners Cornerstone Co-op, Lakeland Tire and Lakeland Realty, Adult Groups winner, the County of St. Paul and Elk Point FCSS, Kids' Groups winner, the Elk Point Theatre Project, and an added-at-last-minute category for Vintage Vehicles, David Ference, Russ Keller and Ryan Hahn.

By the time the shorter-than-usual parade had made its way around the route, rain was beginning to patter down, and the A. G. Ross Arena was a hive of activity as volunteers began moving everything from large inflatables to the beer garden indoors and out of the weather.

The lobby was packed and the Pond Hockey volunteers running the concession worked at top speed to prepare lunch for the crowd, which didn't thin out until after the reorganized activities were all in place and MC Debra McQuinn led the singing of O Canada. County Coun. Kevin Wirsta brought greetings from County Council, and the fun began.

Elk Point Early Childhood Development Council had activities for the tiny tots, while slightly older kids enjoyed a variety of penny carnival-type games, flipped giant flies toward a giant frog's mouth, tossed beanbags in the Jungle Safari, tried their hand at quick tire changes in the Pit Stop and lined up for the palm-topped bounce castle, face painting and sparkle tattoos.

Three new attractions, the Gladiator Joust, Double Bungee Run and High Striker, all proved very popular throughout the afternoon, with even the local RCMP and Fire Department getting in on the fun.



ARMY CADETS Videt Patel and Joshua Smith from 2395 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps, St. Paul, marched behind the Town of Elk Point float down the parade route.

Four young ladies with a familiar last name, Kathryn, Sofia, Emily and Clare Fakeley, age 15 to six, wowed the audience with their tremendous talent on cello and violin in the first segment of the afternoon's entertainment, before Edmonton singer and songwriter Ben Sures, who has performed in many Canadian communities as part of the Home Routes concert series, took over the spotlight with his band for two sets, with another crowd-pleasing event, the Pie Eating Contest, in between,

That contest was part of Elk Point's very first

Canada Day celebration in 1983, and one that continued to draw an eager lineup of competitors for years after that before being discontinued. Its comeback this year saw three age groups dive into chocolate cream pies donated by Golden Loaf Bakery while a huge crowd of onlookers cheered them on to a messy-faced finish. The six-to-12-year-old group saw a young man named Brandon place first, with Victoria Inscho second and Elizabeth Smith third, while in the 13-to-18 group, Zoe Inscho was first, Noah Kuraski second and Heath McNamara third. The adult group included several Elk Point Firefighters, but it was Jonathan Davies who was declared the winner, followed by firefighters Kristen Burton and Bryce Osinchuk.

And, just in case watching the pie eaters made anyone think about snack time, they were in luck, with Mir Ali from the Town of Elk Point handing out cookies donated by Subway, and Elk Point Further Education Council's Sandra Cameron and Sharil Baumgardner handing out the Canada Day birthday cupcakes from Elk Point Royal Purple.

The persistent rain clouds finally moved off, and the firefighters moved outdoors, determining that conditions would finally allow their first-ever Car Smash to go ahead, only a couple of hours behind schedule. But before anyone could wield an axe or hammer, the three cars, a Hyundai Tiburon donated by Ducharme Motors, a Chevy Cavalier and a Kia, each drained of oil and coolant, were started and revved up, to see which would last the longest, with the audience invited to guess which would last the longest. It wasn't the Kia, which coughed its last in a mere 30 seconds, nor the Cavalier, which held on for two minutes and two seconds. No, it was the Tiburon that took an entire five minutes and 52 seconds before it belched smoke and spit out a connecting rod before falling silent. Katie Magosse had the closest guess on the first two, while Tanner Epp came closest on the third.

(Continued on Page 7)



CORNERSTONE CO-OP placed first in the Small Business category, with Cooper, the Co-op mascot, waving to the crowd from a grocery bag/



LAKELAND TIRE was second in the Small Business category, with flags waving in the breeze from the back of a car-crushing pickup.



Best on Parade

David Ference's gleaming 1928 Model A Ford was the winner in the Antique Vehicles category.



INDUSTRIAL WINNER was Canadian Natural Resources, with Selte Fuel (not shown) placing second in the category.



ELK POINT THEATRE PROJECT performers wearing shirts from their series of excellent productions, placed first in the Kids' Groups and Organizations category.

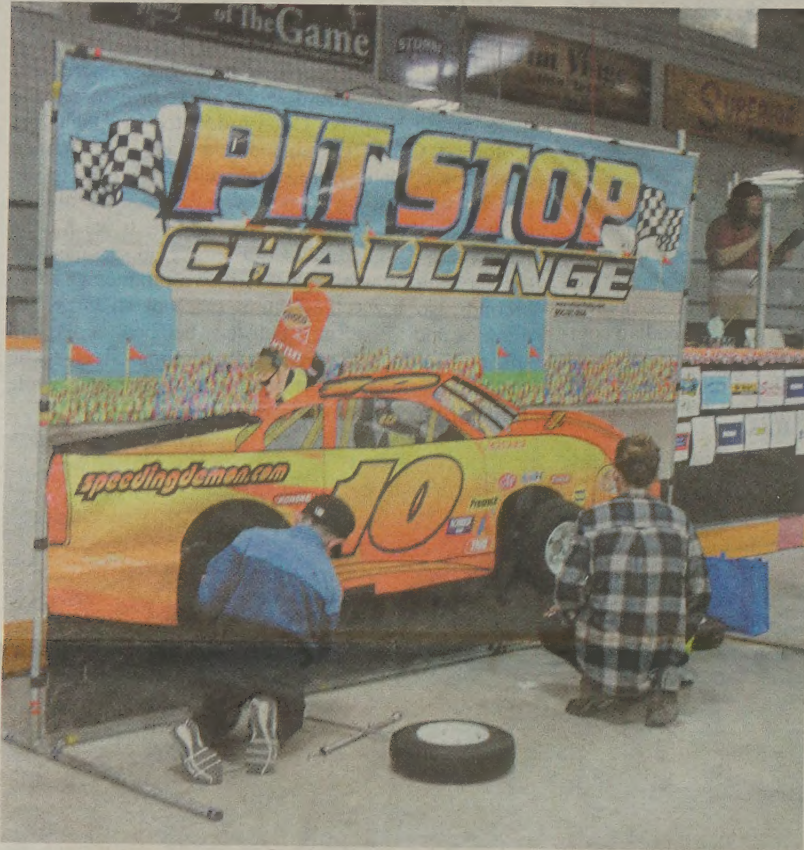


COUNTY OF ST. PAUL AND ELK POINT FCSS and Haying in the 30s shared first place honors with their joint entry in the Adult Groups and Organizations category.



Fun for all ages...

They bounced, they pounded, they cranked on wrenches, tossed ping-pong balls and battled in the jousting ring...



...They ate pie, oh boy, did they eat pie!





... and enjoyed music

The very talented Fakeley Sisters entertained with their cello and violin numbers, and Home Routes singer-songwriter Ben Sures and his band added a down-home touch with his songs.

Meanwhile, at the Canada Day stage...

No crowd, no dunk tank splashes, just soggy quiet on a rainy afternoon



A smashing success!

Elk Point Firefighters drew quite a crowd when the weather finally relented and let the crowd enjoy some outdoor fun. First, the three cars at right were drained of their vital fluids and started up to see how long they could run without oil and antifreeze, with the Hyundai Tiburon lasting just short of six minutes before it blew a connecting rod and was cooled off by the fire hose. Then it was time for some hands-on fun by spectators young and older, as they took a few whacks at the disabled autos, the youngster at right getting a little help from one of the firemen. The Jaws of Life were also on hand for anyone who wanted to add a finishing touch to the destruction.

Vicki Brooker photos

Canada Day

(Continued from Page 5)

A lineup of eager participants were behind the yellow fire line, ready and willing to put up the cash to take a whack or three at the vehicles or pay an extra fee to try out the Jaws of Life on the battered wrecks when the firefighters declared the scene safe to enter. Approximately 20 people used the Jaws and around 30 smashers of all ages made short work of windows, headlights and body parts as they reduced the vehicles to rubble.

Meanwhile, back in the arena, Laser Tag was underway, with a lot of players for the first couple of hours, but less later in the evening, according to Margaret Bayduza, who "told them to just keep playing, because nobody was waiting."

It might have been a chilly evening, but that didn't stop an estimated 175 warmly dressed people from turning up for the free outdoor movie sponsored by the County of St. Paul and Elk Point FCSS, complete with popcorn, and later to enjoy the spectacular fireworks display that wrapped up Canada's 152nd birthday in great style.



K-Cow Ranch hosts ACA Summer Tour

VICKI BROOKER
Staff Writer

The Wirsta family's K-Cow Ranch in the beautiful Stoney Lake hills was one of three stops for the 2019 Alberta Charolais Association Summer Tour on June 29.

The tour originated in Vermilion, with two bus-loads of farm and ranch families heading first to Lakeview Charolais near Marwayne, with guest exhibitors Good Anchor Charolais and Misty Hill Charolais of Vermilion and XXX Farms, Kitscoty where the stop included breakfast and ample time to view the stock before continuing on the tour.

The buses pulled in to K-Cow Ranch just before noon, and had time to tour some of the pens and check out displays of Kailey and Lexi Wirsta's fundraising projects for the 4-H Summer Synergy, Eye-Tech's revolutionary cattle surveillance equipment and information on Lakeland Agriculture Research Association projects.

The enticing scent of barbecued beef wafting out from Ron Wirsta's charcoal grill brought the crowd back to the show barn where Patsy Spacil and her catering crew were putting the final touches on the lunch buffet.

Following lunch, ACA president Steve Cholak introduced the sponsors and welcomed guest exhibitors, Spruce View Charolais of Andrew and Sherwood Farms of Vermilion. Both have a long history in the livestock industry, Spruce View starting their operation in 1984 and now grown to 210 purebred females, Sherwood Farms dating back to 1904 and with 100 purebreds, both farms also running commercial cattle herds.

"It's overwhelming to see so many of you took the time to come on the tour," Kevin Wirsta said as he welcomed the visitors and introduced wife Janice, their daughters and hired hand Cole Dodgson. "They take care of a lot of what is going on around here."

The Wirsta family, which includes his dad, five sisters and brother Ron, "has been here on this property a little over 100 years," Wirsta said,

"We keep the females to the south, and the bulls up here. There's a lot of rotation, paddocks and hot wires. We built this place 17 years ago, and we run Charolais, Hereford and Angus.

"My wife's family has been in the Charolais business for over 40 years, and the Wirstas have been raising Herefords since 1989. In between, we developed an Angus program. We try to make it all work, that is our livelihood and we love cattle. We have 260 cows, 2,200 acres of pasture and hay land."

Tour members had ample opportunity to see some of those cows and the guest cattle following lunch, as they strolled down the hill to the pasture as storm clouds built up to the north and west, ensuring more rain to keep pastures and hay in shape for the summer months.

Then it was back on the buses and off to Minburn area, where participants visited Sugarloaf Charolais for supper and a tour of the farm to wind up the daylong tour.



CHECKING OUT THE HERD - Visitors had the opportunity to roam the K-Cow pasture for a close-up look at the herd on the rolling hills of the pasture, as storm clouds built to the north and west.



AND EVEN CLOSER - Tour participants had the opportunity to visit some of the bulls and females in the pens near the K-Cow Ranch show barn prior to lunch. One even came close enough for a friendly scratch behind the ears.



KEVIN WIRSTA gave the visitors a rundown on his family's history in the cattle business, which now includes purebred Herefords and Angus as well as Charolais.



EYE IN THE SKY - Jagger Smyl Joly showed off a long-distance surveillance system for keeping an eye on the herd in the pasture.

Vicki Brooker photos

FARM/HOUSEHOLD AUCTION Saturday July 20, 10 am start

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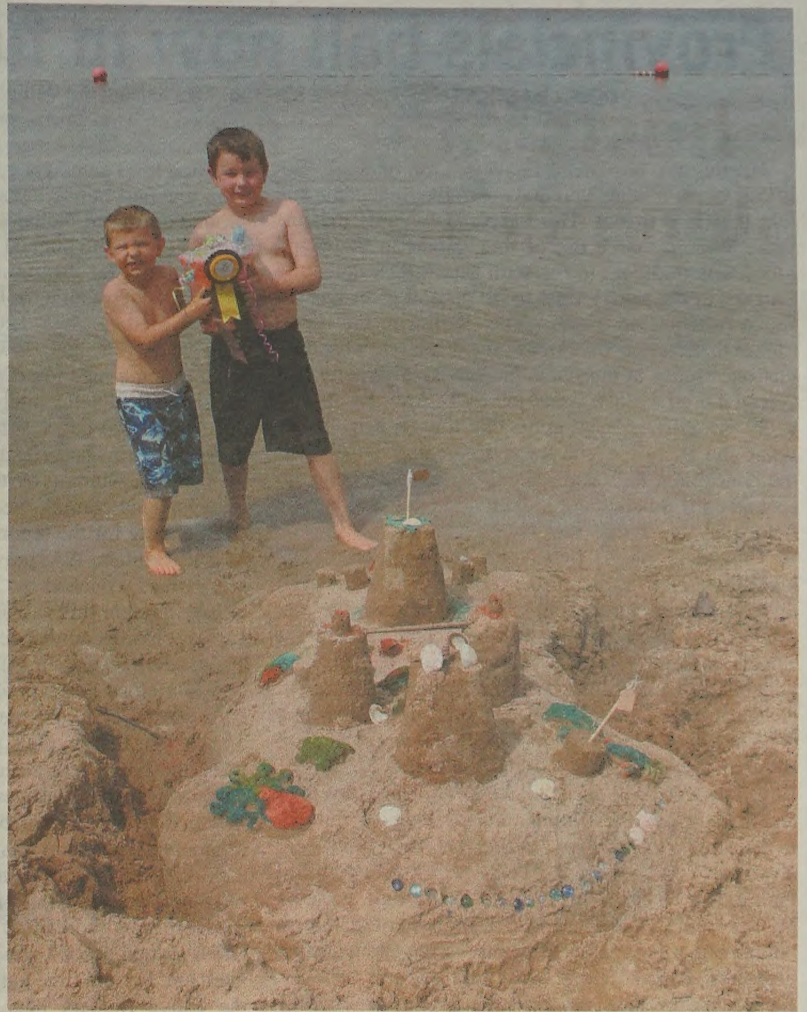
Castles in the sand



OVERALL WINNER was Skye Royer, with her beautifully jewel-bedecked castle, complete with drawbridge over the surrounding moat.



FAMILY STYLE FUN saw Whitney Lake beach lined with a wide variety of sand castles built by area youngsters on Saturday afternoon.



SECOND OVERALL - Hayden and Kale Levere added plenty of colour to their large and complex castle. Third place in the open competition went to Dallas Royer.

Winnie Carter placed first, Kenzie Leathem second and Isabel Osmer third in the under five age group.

The Sand Castle Competition was sponsored by Elk Point Early Childhood Development Committee and the County of St. Paul and Elk Point FCSS, with about 50 children and adults enjoying the afternoon on the beach, which pleased organizer Kenna Leathem, who said the event "competed against Stoney Lake Rodeo and the rain," which moved off to provide perfect weather for the event.

Announcements

GASCON, Jean



On June 30, 2019 Mrs. Jean Gascon of Elk Point passed away at the age of 80 years. She is survived by her children, Omer, Jerry (Delayne), Rene & Roxanne (Steve) Hoshowski; 3 grandchildren, Jarrett, Gabriel & Isabella; 2 step-grandchildren, Devon & Jordan; 2 sisters & 1 brother, Berthe (Roland) Michaud, Real (Jenny) Malo & Fleurette (Metro) Papirny; special sister-in-law, Claudette (Stan "Pete") Krylo; numerous nieces & nephews. Mrs. Gascon was predeceased by her husband, Roland; parents, Floremond & Maria Malo; sisters, Lucille (Jacques) Charbonneau & Gilberte (Origene) Lafortune; brothers, Lucien (Irene), Pierre (Lillian Durand), Roland (Lucille) & Aime. A Memorial Mass will be held on Wednesday, July 24 at 1:00 p.m. at St. Paul Cathedral, St. Paul, with Reverend Father Gerard Gauthier as the celebrant. Cremation has taken place. If desired, donations may be made to Haying in the 30s (Cancer Support Society) or Canadian Liver Foundation c/o 5626 - 51 Street, St. Paul, AB T0A 3A1. To send condolences online, please visit www.gracegardensfuneralchapel.com.



JUDGING TEAM members Brad Dubrue, Courtney Cole, Seleana Hebert and Mackenzie Vezeau had a challenging job on their hands.

Community Lions having a busy summer

SANDIE BISHOP

Elk Point Community Lions

The Elk Point Community Lions have made their final draw of the series and the Trip of the Month winners for June are: Steven Dykstra from St. Paul won the trip for two to Victoria, while Diane and Cam Peifer and Mark Scott won the \$100 cash prizes.

The Community Lions have applied for another raffle, with tickets going on sale Sept. 1, and the first draw to be held in January 2020.

Recent activities for the Community Lions of Elk Point include planting flowers in the bed on the corner of 50th Ave and 50th St, and looking after the children's bicycle parade on Canada Day. Members also provided assistance with the Moose Lake Fish Derby, and in preparing Camp Whitney for the camping season.



Provincials ball now in full swing

DOUG BASSETT
Review Sports

Hosting the provincial finals is a ton of work. But it's all worth it when you make it to the final game and win the Gold medal. The Lakeland Layouts did just that. Winning three out of four games in the round robin, sending them to the semi finals, then defeating Calgary in the semi-final to go on and meet Lac La Biche in the Gold medal game. Earlier in the round robins that started on Friday, the Dodgers who they met once more in the finals on Sunday afternoon had defeated the Layouts. Great job by D'Arcy Evans and Kelly Radcliffe for bringing this tournament to Elk Point and to all the players and parents who worked the concession and score keeping and especially the ground crew Sunday morning after the rain making the fields playable for the day.

This team has the brand new car smell to it. The brand new start up team, the **Midget Sox** played in their very first round robin games right here this past weekend at Bassett Field. It's been seven full years since Elk Point fielded a Midget baseball team. But with determination and hard work from Cory McLean and Dean Rogal, they recruited players from all around the Lakeland area and entered into the A division of Baseball Alberta Provincials that starts in the month of July. The team will play two weekends of round robin and then the provincial final on the weekend of July 27. In their first game this past weekend at home, they were down early to the Parkland Twins 9 to 1 after the third inning. Not ready to throw in the towel, they started a big rally and scored six runs in the bottom of the fourth but ran out of time (after some discussion about a game time limit) losing 10 to 7. Noah Saskiw, Luke Grunder, Carson and brother Jackson Livingstone and Bradley Urlacher all hitting with a single.

The second game on Saturday lead-off batter Andre Proctor Rameriz cranking an in-the-park home run, plus he hit two singles and took a walk, going four for four at the plate and 'King Cole' Bendixen with two singles. The game tied 6-all after six innings, the Sox

taking the lead, the 'King' coming in as the closer, also pitched an awesome seventh inning to shut down the Chestermere Crushers.

Their third game got going Sunday morning after an hour and half rain delay and some drying work by the ground crew that included umpires Conrad Pierce and Ryan Yopyk who pitched in to help. The boys winning this one with the 10-run mercy rule after five innings. Brad Urlacher with a triple, Charlie 'Chuckles' Rogal, Luke Grunder, Mark Livingstone and Noah Saskiw each with a single. Owen Cleland coming in on relief doing a nice job of throwing strikes in this one. Matthew Beaudette pitching the complete game for the Sox in the second game on Sunday against the Parkland Twins had 10 strike outs and allowed no runs for the Sox, winning by the 10-run mercy rule in five innings. This coming weekend the Sox will travel to Chestermere for the second round of provincials.

The Bantam AA provincial team, the **Lakeland Northstars**, coached by Tyler Warawa, played down in Chestermere this past weekend, and he reports:

"The Northstars headed to Chestermere to playoff against the best team in Alberta, the 12-0 Olds Spitfires. It was a close game until the fourth inning and then Olds started cranking the ball. A few errors against a team like that and it's game over. After the loss to Olds, the boys were faced with another team that has played them tough all year. We were to meet Grande Prairie Reds at 6:00 p.m. but the game was called due to lightening. The game was played Sunday morning at 9 a.m. As usual it was a tight back and forth game, a great pitching duel. Down 4-3 in the bottom of the seventh, the Northstars scored two big runs for the walk off 5-4 win. A much needed win that took a little pressure off the team. For the final game of the weekend we played the Castor Raiders. The game was fairly close until our bats woke up in the 4th inning and we pulled away with 12-5 win. Another great weekend of ball for the boys, who continue to play great against tough competition. We will be hosting a Provincial game against Wainwright at Wilson Field in the next couple weeks, be sure to swing in and catch some great ball."



KEAGAN LOCKE from St. Lina pitched one short of a complete game. In Bantam, the pitchers are allowed a maximum of 90 pitches according to the pitch count rules set out by Baseball Alberta.

Last weekend, Rylee 'the Rocket' Warawa and Kaylee 'Big Bird' Radcliffe, playing in the Provincial finals with the Bonnyville Angels in Castor, made it all the way to the final game before the rain hit too hard to finish. The decision from Softball Alberta was that the two teams, Bonnyville and Castor, would meet in Vermilion on this past Thursday night to play the final game, the host Castor winning the Gold and the Angels winning Silver. A little disappointing at first, not winning the Gold but a Silver medal is still a big deal when six or eight other teams didn't make it to the finals. (Photo on Page 11)

And now for the K. A. Campbell quote of the week. "It's the same as any other ball game you'll remember as long as you live." Joe Garagiola on playing in the World Series

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www.parrishandheimbecker.com**1005. Help Wanted****MD of St. Paul Foundation
Manager- Elk Point Heritage Lodge (Supportive Living)**

MD of St. Paul Foundation is a Non-Profit organization that has been providing affordable supportive living accommodations to seniors for 20 years. Elk Point Heritage Lodge one of our Lodges, in the Town of Elk Point has been in existence since 1986 and has 50 units, of which 10 are Supportive Living Level 3. As a provider of safe, affordable, quality accommodation, we offer competitive salaries & excellent working conditions for our team of employees. This position is full time, mainly daytime hours, however as the manager you may be required to respond outside of regular hours. We are seeking an experienced leader to manage the day to day operations of our seniors supportive living facility Elk Point Heritage Lodge.

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PROVINCIALS SILVER - Rylee 'the Rocket' Warawa (right) and Kaylee 'Big Bird' Radcliffe won silver with the Bonnyville Angels at U14 C Girls Softball Provincials in Castor.

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Stoney Lake Stampede marks 57 great years

VICKI BROOKER
Staff Writer

The weekend's weather forecast was less than promising, but both performances of the 57th Annual Stoney Lake Stampede went rain-free, as contestants from the Lakeland Rodeo Association, Wildrose Rodeo Association and Foothills Cowboys Association provided great entertainment for enthusiastic crowds.



The Bareback Bronc Riding saw only five contestants climb aboard Duffy Rodeo's challenging stock, with Sunday's winning 69.5-point ride by Colton Ouellette on Road Rash and Colton McKinney's 67.5-point ride on the same bronc the only qualified rides.

The Junior Bulls were even more of a challenge, with none of the nine riders staying aboard until the eight-second buzzer.

Timed events drew more contestants, with some making their runs in the slack, including Tie Down Roping winner Wyatt Branden, who got the job done in 8.7 seconds. In the Steer Wrestling, another slack contestant, Francois Goulet, tied with Pacey DeLeew, who recorded Saturday night's top score of 4.3 seconds, for the win.

Team Ropers Dylan Knapp and Walker Galloway also made their winning 4.9-second run in the slack, to pull ahead of Saturday's leaders, Carter and Walker Balan. Sunday afternoon's top team ropers were Mikenna and Madelyn Schauer with a time of 7.7.

A new feature this year was Breakaway Roping, where Denim Ross of Botha won the Junior division with a rapid 2.2 seconds on Sunday, and Dawn-Marie Branden won the Ladies' with that same time on Saturday evening.

Ladies' Barrel Racing was also won in the slack, Joanne Lawes stopping the clock at 15.744 seconds, just .009 of a second faster than Saturday's leader Kerstin Bennett and well ahead of Sunday's top time of 15.935, recorded by Aimee McKnight.

Aubrey Ross led the Junior Barrels from the get-go with a rapid 15.555, with only one other rider cracking the 16-second mark, while the fastest Pee Wee Barrels competitor, Jayda Songhurst, had a time of 16.555 seconds.

Back at the bucking chutes, Kagen Schmidt rode Fresno to a 74.5-point score on Saturday evening, but was edged out by LRA and Wildrose season leader Cody Lane with Sunday's top score of 75.

After Saturday's performance, the score in the Bull Riding sat at Bulls 7 – Cowboys 0, but two qualified rides came on Sunday, LRA season leader Armondo Davila scoring a 66 on Puzzles and Jesse Havell a 65 on Ky.

Both performances showcased the skills of the Cowboy Mounted Shooting enthusiasts during the intermission, with Sunday's intermission also including a calf scramble and best-dressed cowboy and cowgirl competition for the little ones.

Sunday's performance wound up with Stoney Lake's signature event, the Corey Marcoux Memorial Wild Steer and Stoneboat Race, this year won hands-down by Kevin Wirsta, Cole Dodgson and A. J. McDowell,

Chris Proski was the lucky winner of the barbecue raffle.



A WILD, WESTERN WEEKEND - Pacey DeLeew gets down in the Steer Wrestling, top left; Maryanne Hallwachs rounds the second barrel, left; a mounted shooter takes aim, above; Steele Shore takes a ride on Milky Way, right; and local talent shows true grit in the Wild Steer and Stoneboat Race, below.

